REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends the claims to conform to United States patent practice. No subject matter has been surrendered and no new subject matter has been added. The amendments are for clarification purposes only and are not for substantial or statutory reasons related to patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

EVEREST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP

Date: January 31, 2005

Michael S. Leonard, Reg. No. 37,557

P.O. Box 708

Northbrook, IL 60065 Phone: (847) 272-3400